

- Bursting with Pride
- Osgoode and the Community
- Osgoode Catalysts
- Mental Health, Disability, Law & Justice

# CONTINUUM



The New  
Osgoode

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# CONTINUUM

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COVER PHOTO: HORST HERGET PHOTOGRAPHY

# WINTER 2012



We're  
seeing  
beyond  
our  
walls.

# Message from the Dean

What an amazing time to be at Osgoode. Looking out at an overflowing Moot Court Room at our Building Celebration on October 16, 2011, was a thrilling moment. It was a privilege to greet so many luminaries – from our Alumni Award of Excellence honourees, former Supreme Court Justice Peter Cory and former Superior Court Justice George Carter, to the award presenters Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin and former Chief Justice, Attorney General and current Chancellor of York University, Roy McMurtry, from former Deans, to the donors who made the building project possible, including the Kaneff family, and to so many alumni, former faculty and staff returning to Osgoode to join us in ushering in a new era.

Our theme for the year of building launch is New Windows on Justice and the Building Celebration featured a panel on this idea with Justice Rosalie Abella, former Dean Peter Hogg, former Attorney General and my classmate, Michael Bryant '92 and John Tory '78. The idea of New Windows on Justice captures compelling new perspectives on the future of Canada's justice system as well as Osgoode's goal of engagement, making a difference in the community and investigating law in action.

These ideas are featured in Osgoode's new 2011–2015 Strategic Plan, which reflects our commitment to experiential education, research intensification, collaboration with partners in the community and finding new ways to tell our story. In 2012, Osgoode will become the first Law School in Canada to include a universal experiential component, which will provide every JD student a clinical, intensive or simulated learning experience as part of their degree.

Following through on our commitment to pursue partnerships, Osgoode is embarking on ambitious collaborations with a range of organizations, including the Human Rights Legal Support Centre, the Office of the Judge Advocate General, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, the Association in Defense of the Wrongly Convicted, the United Nations Office of Staff Legal Assistance and the Society of Adjudicators and Regulators of Ontario, just to name a few.

This issue of Continuum focuses on how these dynamics come together. These stories truly represent new windows on justice.

Finally, as you may have noticed, Continuum has a new look, with the windows of the Ignat Kaneff building on the masthead. The new design provides a visual counterpart to the fresh and forward looking content of Continuum.

For more perspectives on all things Osgoode, check out my blog at: <http://deansblog.osgoode.yorku.ca/> or follow me at @DeanSossin on Twitter.



Lorne Sossin '92  
Dean



## IN BRIEF



PHOTO: AKA PHOTOGRAPHY

### Top OSC Spot for Professor Mary Condon

Professor Mary Condon has been appointed a Vice-Chair to the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC), the regulatory body responsible for overseeing the capital markets in Ontario.

A leading academic in the area of securities law, Condon served as a part-time OSC Commissioner for more than three years

prior to being appointed June 1, 2011, for a two-year term as one of the OSC's three full-time Vice-Chairs.

"At the OSC I have the opportunity to be closely involved in emerging policymaking on issues of fundamental importance to our capital markets, as well as to sit on hearing panels dealing with novel and complex matters. I hope to

bring all this experience back to the classroom at Osgoode when my term at the OSC expires."

Condon, who is a member of the Board of Trustees of the York University Pension Fund and a member of the Investor Education Fund board of directors, is on a leave of absence from the Law School while she serves as OSC Vice-Chair.



### INTERNSHIP OFFERS GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Chelsea Thomas '08 came to Osgoode with the desire to make a real, practical difference in peoples' lives. Instead of walking the traditional path after completing her articles, Thomas booked a one-way ticket and flew to Thailand. She witnessed the devastating effects of human rights abuses on refugees and became inspired to pursue international refugee law. When she returned to

Canada, she worked for the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University and *Precedent* magazine, which led to an internship at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Cambodia. She was subsequently accepted into the Canadian Bar Association Young Lawyers International Program and now works for the Law Society of Kenya. In her spare time, Thomas is learning Swahili and mountain climbing. She is an inspiring example of someone who followed her dream, took the risks to reach it, and now realizes the unsurpassed benefits of her choices and the incredibly rich experiences they have revealed. Thomas hopes that other alumni will consider the CBA program and take the opportunity to discover more about other countries and more about themselves.

# Heraldry in Gowlings Hall



ARTIST DONALD BLACK, A 75-YEAR-OLD RETIRED LAWYER AND MEMBER OF THE ROYAL HERALDRY SOCIETY OF CANADA, CREATED A MAGNIFICENT THREE-DIMENSIONAL CARVING OF THE OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL COAT OF ARMS THAT NOW HANGS IN GOWLINGS HALL.

The Law School had commissioned Black for the work but he decided to donate the carving, which took him approximately 125 hours to complete. Hunched over a workbench in the laundry room of his Toronto home, he carved the individual pieces with his handtools then mounted them on a fibreboard. The final piece measures 72 inches high by 42 across.

Black took up woodcarving as a hobby in his late teens and started creating coats of arms in 1967 as a Centennial project. He carved the coats of arms or shields of all of the provinces, finishing the last one – British Columbia – in the 1990s. From there, he went on to create many more coats of arms including former Governor General Michaëlle Jean’s personal coat of arms, which he presented to her on behalf of the Society at an event at Rideau Hall in the spring of 2009.

Black, who graduated from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law in 1960 and was in general practice until his retirement in 2004, points out that the Osgoode coat of arms is relatively young, having been granted its memorial bearings in 1958.

Black followed the “blazon” for the Osgoode coat of arms in “Beddoe’s Canadian Heraldry” in creating his work. Blazon is the precise language of heraldry that guides an artist. But, he also made some small modifications of his own such as making the portico above the helmet



PHOTO: HORST HERGET PHOTOGRAPHY

a little smaller “because having a portico on the helmet makes no sense at all.” In addition, he created an extra loop of scroll on the Doric column to ensure that the words “Magna Charta Angliae” appear on one side.

“Dean Smalley Baker conceived of the coat of arms, but Donald has given us an heirloom,” said Dean Lorne Sossin. “Every day I see people stopping to look at it and I am so pleased that we have such a beautiful work of art to carry on an Osgoode tradition.”

## Businessman and Benefactor Jay Hennick Receives Honourary Degree

As early as six years old, honorary degree recipient Jay Hennick showed that he had a nose for business.

Patrick Monahan, York's Vice-President Academic and Provost who delivered the citation for Hennick at the Fall 2011 Convocation, brought a smile to the business leader's face when he described how as a six-year-old boy Hennick created his first business, collecting and returning neighbours' empty garbage cans after the weekly pickup for one cent a can.

"The good news was that the garbage can business is steady year-round; the bad news was that Hennick

sometimes had trouble collecting the money he was owed from some of the neighbours," Monahan said. "Thus he learned the first hard lesson of the service business – always keep a close eye on your receivables."

While still in his teens, Hennick went on to create a lifeguard business and that, in turn, evolved into a complete pool service operation, which included maintaining and cleaning swimming pools.

"Hennick completed his sociology studies at York in 1978," Monahan said. "The challenge was how to continue to operate the pool business while attending law school full-time at the University of Ottawa. Drawing on the partnership philosophy emphasized by his parents, Jay offered his general manager and long-time friend,

Howie Kirshenbaum, a 50 per cent equity stake and a free hand to run the business, while Hennick would earn a token salary and a share of the profits. Hennick had struck on a simple concept that would prove the cornerstone of his business philosophy: find the right person to manage a business, give them the motivation of ownership, and share in the profits generously."

Hennick, who received a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Ottawa in 1981, began his career as a corporate lawyer with Fogler, Rubinoff LLP. In 1989, he established FirstService Corporation, which is now a global leader in the real estate services sector, providing services in commercial real estate and property management, with revenues of more than \$2 billion annually. In 1998, at the age of 41,

## THE RYERSON CONNECTION

Debora Foster,  
Ryerson's Interim  
Dean of the Yeates  
School of Graduate  
Studies and Osgoode  
Dean Lorne Sossin.



PHOTO: CLIFTON LI PHOTOGRAPHY

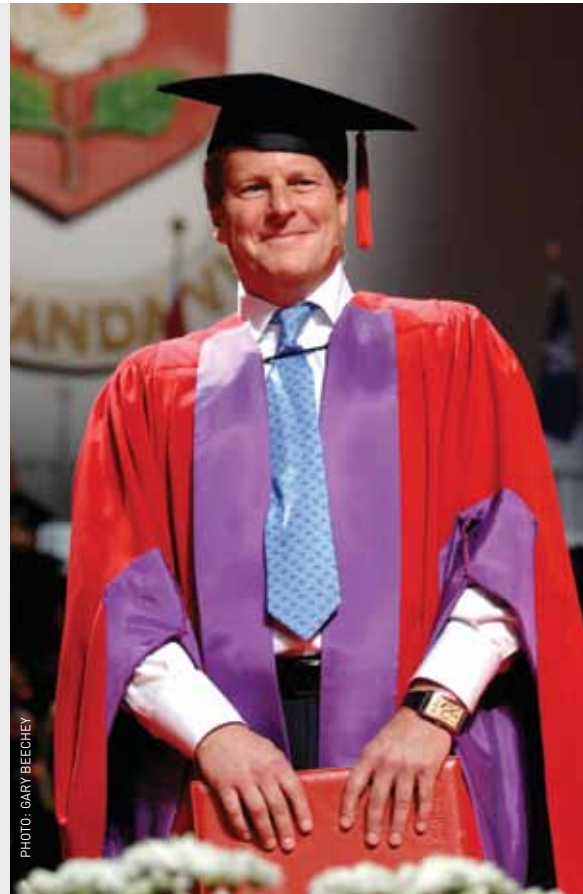


Hennick received Ontario's Entrepreneur of the Year Award for consumer services and Canada's Entrepreneur of the Year Award for creative service integration. In December 2001, he was named Canada's CEO of the year by Canadian Business magazine.

He and his wife, Barbara, believe in giving back generously to their community and contributing to a variety of causes through The Jay & Barbara Hennick Family Foundation. At York, they established the Hennick Centre for Business and Law at Osgoode and the Schulich School of Business. At Mount Sinai Hospital, where Hennick is Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors and Co-Chairs the Hospital Foundation, they created an endowment to support medical research at the hospital. And at the University of Ottawa Law School, they established the Jay Hennick LLB/MBA Program.

"The Hennick Centre reflects Jay's conviction, based on his own experience, that training in both law and business fundamentals is the key to career success in the globalized world of the 21st century," Monahan said.

"Mr. Chancellor, Jay Hennick is one of Canada's most successful businessmen, building a global leader in its field through an exemplary partnership philosophy. He is also one of the University's most generous benefactors, and his philanthropy, not just at York but in the community generally, is exceptional and a model for others. It is my privilege to present him to you and this convocation as a fitting candidate for the degree Doctor of Laws honoris causa."



Osgoode has entered into a unique and exciting new reciprocal interdisciplinary studies partnership with the Yeates School of Graduate Studies at Ryerson University that broadens students' academic experience.

As of this fall, a limited number of Ryerson graduate students can enrol in courses at Osgoode and Osgoode students can take graduate school courses at Ryerson.

Dean Lorne Sossin said the partnership capitalizes on each institution's expertise, namely Osgoode's tradition of excellence in legal education and scholarship and in experiential learning, and Ryerson's record of applied education and strength in areas such as media studies and journalism.

"We have the kind of depth in the study of law that is a good complement to those areas where Ryerson has developed expertise," Sossin said. "Students will be enriched by having the chance to take the courses we're going to designate each year as available to the other."

Students, who pay their usual tuition to their home university, are allowed to register for up to one full-year or two half-year courses, selected from a list of more than a dozen courses provided by each institution. Students will obtain credits for courses if they attain the pass level required.



# BURSTING *with* PRIDE

It was billed as the “Osgoode Building Celebration,” but it was never just about the building. The day was all about “community” – the coming together of students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Osgoode Hall Law School who share an enduring common bond.

*by* Virginia Corner





ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOS: HORST HERGET PHOTOGRAPHY



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It's true that the 1,000 guests who came out to the Law School on Sunday, October 16, 2011, for a first glimpse of Osgoode's inspiring new facility were excited to see the \$50 million makeover by Diamond + Schmitt Architects.

Gowlings Hall, the soaring atrium that now forms the east-west spine of the Law School with offices, student spaces and the library organized around it, bedazzled. The library beckoned visitors with its slender white pendant lights, comfortable armchairs and tables, warm wood flooring and the elegant Harris Taylor Reading Room. At the western end of the atrium, the Junior Common Room – a hip, light-filled meeting spot for students when they're not in their new classrooms – was jam-packed with guests, starting with a donor reception and ending with a formal presentation to the Law School of commissioned artwork by Marie Finklestein '85 (LLM).

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Although celebrating those amazing new spaces was important, Osgoode Dean Lorne Sossin was quick to note in his welcome remarks to a standing-room-only crowd in the Moot Court Room – and others who were watching on digital screens throughout the building or online – that the reason Osgoode was “bursting with pride today” is not because of the building, but “because of community.”

“The idea that a law school can be more than a collection of students, faculty, staff and alumni, and more than courses, conferences and centres. The idea that community is strengthened by diversity, enlivened by debate and moves forward because of shared purpose and kindred values. This idea of community is what inspired this new architectural expression of the Osgoode identity,” Sossin said.

The Osgoode Building Celebration attracted alumni who had not been back to the Law School since they graduated 10, 20, 30 years ago to recently minted graduates from 2010 and 2011 who lived through the dislocation associated with a two-year building construction project. In addition to touring the School, alumni grooved to the sounds of the



Advocats Big Band featuring Osgoode alumni; explored Osgoode: Then and Now, a wonderful interactive display of Osgoode’s history; and enjoyed gourmet nibbles.

The event also drew dignitaries such as Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, who presented an alumni award to the Honourable Peter Cory ’50, ’97 (LLD); Supreme Court Justice Rosalie Abella; Ontario Chief Justice Warren Winkler ’62, ’64 (LLM), who delivered special remarks; former Ontario Chief Justice, now York University Chancellor, Roy McMurtry ’58, ’91 (LLD), who presented an alumni award to the Honourable George Carter ’48; and York University President and Vice-Chancellor Mamdouh Shoukri who offered a welcome on behalf of the University.

Abella was paired with former Ontario Attorney General Michael Bryant ’92 and Professor Emeritus Peter Hogg ’06 (LLD) in a lively panel discussion moderated by former Ontario Conservative leader turned radio host John Tory ’78. The discussion theme was New Windows on Justice, which is also Osgoode’s theme for this year of return to the building.

“For us, New Windows on Justice is a way of linking together our new architecture with a tradition of engagement with the study of law in action and not only the study of law as a set of ideas,” Sossin told the audience. “We want our students looking out these windows as they explore law and its contexts, just as we want the wider world looking in and seeing a law school dedicated to the public good.”

A high point of the Osgoode Building Celebration was the unveiling of a lustrous donor recognition wall on the second floor of the Law School. It was designed by Dan Klinck of Diamond + Schmitt who also



[1] West-side view of Osgoode library on the ground floor and new Junior Common Room on the first floor. [2] New Junior Common Room. [3] Original west-side view of Osgoode. [4] Original Mixing Area. [5] Original library. [6] Gowlings Hall, formerly the Mixing Area. [7] Newly renovated library.

designed many other signature features in the building.

The microphone on this occasion was turned over to Patrick Monahan, York's Provost and Vice-President Academic, who as Osgoode's Dean from 2003–2009 was the driving force behind the



[1] Gowlings Hall facing east to the main entrance. [2] Guests celebrate in Gowlings Hall. [3] New Windows on Justice panel: Michael Bryant '92, The Honourable Madam Justice Rosalie Abella and Dean Emeritus Peter Hogg. [4] Professor Emeritus R.J. Gray. [5] The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, P.C., Chief Justice of Canada presented The Honourable Peter Cory '50, '97 (LLD) The Alumni Award of Excellence. [6] Students from the Black Law Students Association and Alumni Award of Excellence recipient, The Honourable George Carter '48. [7] The Honourable Warren Winkler '62, '64 (LLM). [8] The Honourable Madam Justice Karen Weiler '67 with The Honourable Peter Cory '50, '97 (LLD), his wife Mary Dayton, and a friend. [9] Some of Osgoode's Legal and Literary Presidents from 1958 to 2012. [10] Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin speaking with Osgoode students. [11] Nina Richmond '86 performing with the Advocats in the Moot Court Room. [12] Alumni from the Class of 2007 meet up at the event. [13] Oyinkan Akinyele '13 presents The Honourable Roy McMurtry '58, '91 (LLD) with an Osgoode hockey jersey.

Building Osgoode Campaign, which raised \$38 million and is the most successful fundraising campaign in Canadian law school history.

The federal and provincial governments, through the Knowledge Infrastructure Program, committed \$25 million to the Osgoode building renovation, and York University gave an additional \$15 million. Plans are underway for an event in early 2012 with government officials to thank them for their support.

Speaking about “the long, long journey to today” and the fulfillment of a dream, Monahan singled out several people for helping to make Osgoode's transformation possible, among them former Osgoode Dean Peter Hogg; architect Jack Diamond; businessman Ignat Kaneff for whom the building is named; and Tim Kennish '64 who was “a tireless advocate” within his firm of Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP.

Capping a day that was described by one staff member as “an historic Osgoode moment” was the unveiling, with an introduction by Professor Emeritus R.J. Gray '57, of a carved and polychromed depiction of the Osgoode coat of arms, the work of retired lawyer Donald Black and a gift from him. A member of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, Black spent more than 125 hours creating the coat of arms, which measures approximately 72 inches high by 42 inches across and now hangs in Gowlings Hall.

All in all it was a memorable day, one that may have been best summed up by Osgoode Professor Janet Walker: “What a wonderful celebration! It was the kind of day that makes you especially proud to be part of the Osgoode community.”

Videos of the celebration are on: [www.youtube.com/osgoodehalllawschool](http://www.youtube.com/osgoodehalllawschool)

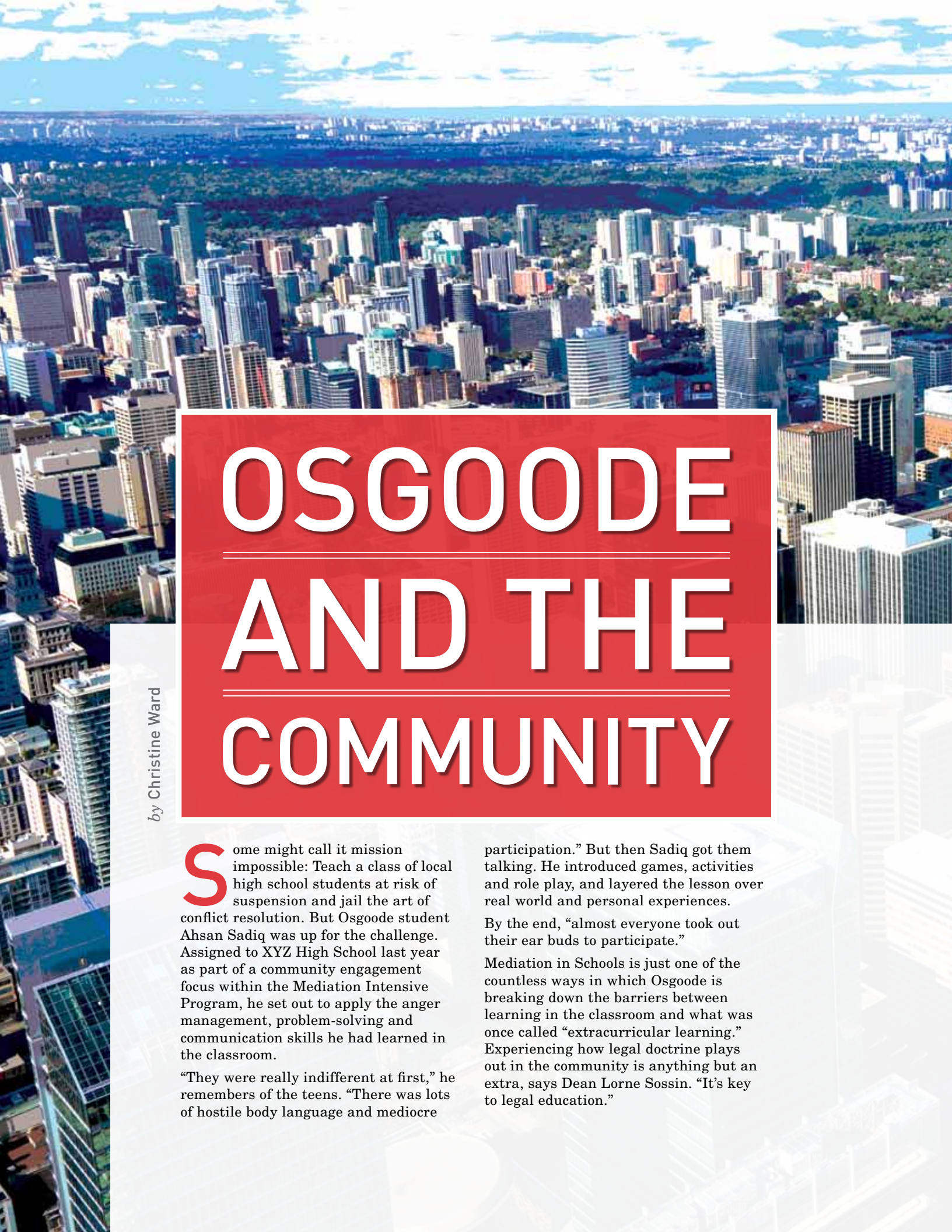
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*Virginia Corner is Osgoode's Communications Manager.*





CELEBRATION PHOTOS: AKA PHOTOGRAPHY



by Christine Ward

# OSGOODE AND THE COMMUNITY

**S**ome might call it mission impossible: Teach a class of local high school students at risk of suspension and jail the art of conflict resolution. But Osgoode student Ahsan Sadiq was up for the challenge. Assigned to XYZ High School last year as part of a community engagement focus within the Mediation Intensive Program, he set out to apply the anger management, problem-solving and communication skills he had learned in the classroom.

“They were really indifferent at first,” he remembers of the teens. “There was lots of hostile body language and mediocre

participation.” But then Sadiq got them talking. He introduced games, activities and role play, and layered the lesson over real world and personal experiences.

By the end, “almost everyone took out their ear buds to participate.”

Mediation in Schools is just one of the countless ways in which Osgoode is breaking down the barriers between learning in the classroom and what was once called “extracurricular learning.” Experiencing how legal doctrine plays out in the community is anything but an extra, says Dean Lorne Sossin. “It’s key to legal education.”





While an Osgoode student in the 1980s, Sossin glimpsed the odd pocket of community life through programs like Parkdale Community Legal Services and the Community and Legal Aid Services Program (CLASP), but “unless you were active in clinics you could be at Osgoode for three years without any idea of what was going on around the corner at Jane and Finch.”

Sossin and before him, Jinyan Li, Patrick Monahan and Peter Hogg, made it their mission to change that. In 2006, Osgoode became the first Canadian law school to introduce a comprehensive public interest graduation requirement. The Osgoode Public Interest Requirement (OPIR) challenges every JD student to complete 40 hours of unpaid, law-related public interest work, often in the local community. Students participate in eligible Osgoode programs like the Mediation Intensive and CLASP; mentor high school students as part of the Laws in Action Within Schools (LAWS) program; provide lawyer-supervised free legal services to low income clients through Pro Bono Students Canada; and even conduct legal research abroad for the UN and other human rights NGOs.

“We want to teach our students that law and justice happen all around us,” says Sossin. From immigration to labour relations issues, and public transit to housing, law weaves its way throughout every aspect

of community life. “How can you possibly teach that without having students experience it firsthand?”

You can’t. Beginning next year, Osgoode will add another Canadian “first” to its undergraduate curriculum. In addition to OPIR, every JD student will engage in a clinical program, an intensive course or a simulated learning experience that takes them out of the classroom and into the community. Sossin’s goal isn’t just better quality legal education; he also has his sights set on more partnerships between the law school and community organizations, and better outcomes for the community in which Osgoode operates.

“Every student should be able to leave here saying something I can’t – that they left Jane-Finch better than they found it.”

**T**he usual mix of Osgoode Hall Law School texts is strewn across Amanda Lo Cicero’s desk, but one book in particular stands out. Lo Cicero is reading about the Rwandan genocide, part of the grade 10 Toronto District School Board (TDSB) curriculum. The third-year law student is a volunteer and part-time employee with the Laws in Action Within Schools (LAWS) program. Launched in 2005 by the University of Toronto Law School and TDSB to help at-risk students succeed in school and continue in post-secondary education, LAWS expanded this fall to include Osgoode.



**“THIS IS THE KIND OF EDUCATION THAT EVERY ONE OF OSGOODE’S STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCED THEIR COMMUNITY FIRSTHAND.”** RICHARD FERRISS, *CLASP Acting Director*

“We want to provide positive and engaging exposure to the justice and legal profession, and use law to help make the high school experience better,” explains LAWS Director Sarah Pole.

So Lo Cicero and a group of more than 100 Osgoode student volunteers are developing initiatives that complement the TDSB curriculum and benefit every grade 10 student in the Jane-Finch community. Included in the mix is a planned workshop on the legal, social, economic and political ramifications of genocide. “We’ll have activities, quizzes, group discussions and debates about Rwanda to complement the existing curriculum,” says Lo Cicero. “And we’ll brainstorm on what we can do locally, nationally and internationally to prevent genocide.”

Both Pole and Lo Cicero are confident that the program and Osgoode’s students are making a difference in the community.

This fall, following a LAWS mock trial held at the Osgoode’s Ignat Kaneff Building, an XYZ High School student reflected on a day spent with Osgoode’s students and practising professionals. “I really liked it because they knew what they were doing and to see them makes me want to be one of them.”

“I realized,” says Lo Cicero, “that this kind of connection can help alter someone’s trajectory. When you’re young and at such a pivotal stage in life, a connection with Osgoode can make a world of difference. I think that’s absolutely fantastic.”

Research shows that LAWS students’ average marks are 17% higher than nonparticipating students, and 73% of LAWS student graduates have enrolled in college or university – 15% higher than the overall TDSB rate.

CLASP Acting Director Richard Ferriss says the Law School’s

community outreach efforts are also providing much-needed services, increasing legal literacy, driving law reform and empowering community members to affect their own brand of change. Working with the grassroots organization Jane-Finch Action Against Poverty, for example, CLASP students helped to facilitate a workshop on the province’s social assistance programs and make a formal submission to the Commission for the Review of Social Assistance in Ontario, the largest review of the province’s social assistance programs in more than 20 years. Other projects involving the Youth Action Network, Jane-Finch On the Move and Jane-Finch Crisis Support are helping to further build community capacity and improve the quality of life for local residents.

Are we making our community a better place? “Absolutely!” he says. “That’s the whole reason I do this.”



## TRANSFORMS YOUR WORLD VIEW. COME OUT OF LAW SCHOOL A DIFFERENT PERSON FROM HAVING

The measure of what makes a difference, though, doesn't rest with the community alone. Osgoode bills experiential learning as a "win-win." If the benefits are great for the Jane-Finch community, they're equally so for Osgoode's students.

"Students come back excited. They understand conflict resolution better because they've had to teach it. They remain curious, aware and their facilitation skills improve in leaps and bounds," says Mediation Intensive Program Director Leanne Shafir of the 15 students currently teaching mediation skills in one of Toronto's most troubled neighbourhoods. "They're becoming more reflective practitioners."

Richard Ferriss, who volunteered with both CLASP and Parkdale Community Legal Services as a student, points to the myth-busting that happens when you put a university student into a community they've likely never had the

opportunity to visit. "This is the kind of education that transforms your world view. Every one of Osgoode's students will come out of law school a different person from having experienced their community firsthand."

**O**n the final day of his Mediation in Schools workshop last fall, Ahsan Sadiq brought along a bag of Halloween candy to say thanks to the students for participating. No sooner had he dropped the stash on the table when one student – a particularly sullen young man who Sadiq feared he had failed to reach with his message – rushed to the table to grab his reward.

"He stuffed handfuls of candy in his pockets," Sadiq remembers. "I said 'Dude, that's not cool!' He walked over to me, shook my hand and returned the chocolate without saying a word." Last spring, when Sadiq

returned to the school for another workshop, he ran into the student in the hallway. "He saw me, followed me in the classroom and sat down. That's when I knew. Wow, I had really made a difference in his life."

That kind of story is music to Sossin's ears. "We can measure our impact quantitatively and qualitatively using a variety of methodologies, but, ultimately, our successes may come in immeasurable ways that may not be apparent for years."

"I'll know our community-based model is a success when I ask our students at Convocation if they have left their community better than they found it and every one of them says 'Yes!'"

---

*Christine Ward is a freelance writer who lives in Kingston, Ontario, and is a frequent contributor to Continuum.*

## Osgoode Catalysts – Alumni Who Blazed a Trail

The Catalysts Project celebrates inspiring Osgoode alumni who overcame barriers in the legal community, and who paved the way for many others. These incredible individuals took risks, persevered regardless of the challenges, and demanded that society and the legal profession aim for higher ideals.

These Catalysts are featured as part of “Osgoode: Then and Now,” a physical and digital showcase of the Law School’s history located in a niche in Gowlings Hall. Their biographies include available information on each graduate (videos, oral history, photos, text, and more). More material – and more Catalysts – will be added to the exhibit in the future.

Here are the Catalysts who made a difference!

### **The Honourable George E. Carter ’48**

(1921–)

George E. Carter is the first black judge born in Canada. The first of 14 children, Carter grew up in Toronto, where he attended Orde Street Public School and Harbord Collegiate Institute, where he graduated at the top of his class. In 1944, he received his BA from Trinity College at the University of Toronto and, in the same year, enlisted in the Canadian army. After his military service, Carter enrolled at Osgoode to pursue his dream of a legal career. Graduating in 1948, Carter articulated with B.J. Spencer Pitt, the only black lawyer practising in Ontario, then went to work for Sydney Harris ’42, a Jewish Canadian. At the time, no other firm would accept black law students for training and Pitt, Harris and Carter were pioneers in opening doors for black lawyers. In 1980, Carter was appointed to the bench. As a judge, he was instrumental in establishing legal aid services and informing the Adoption of Coloured Children agency.

### **Susan Hare ’93**

(1952–)

Susan Hare is one of the first aboriginal lawyers in Ontario and in 2007 became one of the first aboriginal benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada. She is a member of the M’Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island.

by Nathalie Kalina ’13

# CATALYSTS

Hare was instrumental in the establishment of the Aboriginal Lands, Resources & Governments Intensive Law Program at Osgoode. In 1994, The Susan Hare Fund was established at Osgoode in her honour. In 2003, she was a recipient of Osgoode's Alumni Gold Key Award for outstanding achievement.

### **The Honourable Russell Juriansz '72** (1946–)

Born in India, Justice Russell Juriansz came to Toronto at the age of nine. In 1969, he graduated from the University of Toronto with a Bachelor of Science degree and then enrolled at Osgoode where he distinguished himself as President of the Legal & Literary Society. Juriansz practised in administrative, constitutional and employment law, concentrating on human rights, labour relations, pay equity, pension and benefits, and the Charter. From 1978 to 1987 he was General Counsel and Director of Legal Services for the Canadian Human Rights Commission, then went on to become a partner at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP before establishing his own practice. He was appointed to the Superior Court of Justice, then called the Ontario Court (General Division), in 1998. He was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal in 2004 and became the first person of colour and the first South Asian judge on the Court.

### **Harry S. LaForme '77** (1946–)

Justice Harry S. LaForme is a member of the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation located in southern Ontario. He was born and raised on his reserve where his mother and some of his family continue to reside and remain active in that First Nation's government. His early years were spent on a reserve in Hagersville, Ontario, where his father, Maurice, and grandfather, Sylvester, known as "Big Pat," were chiefs. LaForme's older brother, Bryan, holds that position today. Maurice moved the family to Buffalo, where Harry, who loved basketball, became involved in championing youth through coaching a local team. Harry went to technical school and became an engineer. LaForme graduated from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1977 and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1979. In 1991, he was appointed as Chair of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Land Claims. He taught the "Rights of Indigenous Peoples" law course at Osgoode in 1992 and 1993. LaForme was appointed to what is now the Superior Court of Ontario in 1994. He broke new ground by ruling in favour of legalizing same-sex marriage in 2002. He was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal in 2004, becoming the first aboriginal person appointed to an appellate court in Canada.

### **The Honourable Bora Laskin '36** (1912–1984)

Bora Laskin was the first academic and the first Jewish man to be appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada (1970) and to become Chief Justice (1973). Born in 1912 in Fort William, Ontario (now Thunder Bay) to a Russian immigrant family, Laskin grew up playing baseball and excelling in school. He graduated from Osgoode in 1936 after studying law at the University of Toronto. He went on to complete a Master of Laws degree at Harvard University. Despite his academic credentials, Laskin faced considerable difficulties in finding an articling position, employment or a place in the academy in the anti-Semitic atmosphere of 1930s and 40s Toronto. Laskin persevered and obtained a teaching position at the University of Toronto in 1940. Five years later, he was appointed to Osgoode's faculty. In 1949, Laskin resigned in order to return to the University of Toronto as a founding member of the new faculty of law. Laskin was appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal in 1965 and in 1970, was elevated to the Supreme Court of Canada and became its first Jewish member. He is remembered for the doors he helped open for Jewish Canadians, his love of learning, his compassion and his commitment to reason and integrity.

# Y S T S



**Laura Legge '48**  
(1923 – 2010)

Laura Legge was the first woman to be elected as a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada and went on to become its first female Treasurer. A strong advocate for the traditional rights and duties of the legal profession, Legge led several legal and community services. She was also a role model and mentor to many young female lawyers. During her lifetime, Legge received several awards, including an Honourary Doctor of Laws from the Law Society and the Alumni Award of Excellence from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1997. In 2007, the Law Society created the Laura Legge Award to honour her many contributions to the profession. It is awarded to women who exemplify leadership in the profession.

**David Lepofsky '79**  
(1957 –)

David Lepofsky is a blind lawyer and disability rights advocate. While an articling student, he was part of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind delegation, which appeared before the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution of Canada and helped to ensure the inclusion of disabled people under the equal rights provision of the Charter. As head of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act Committee, Lepofsky also played a critical role in the passing of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act (2001) and the



Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act (2005). Lepofsky has more recently become famous for his two cases against the Toronto Transit Commission, which have made it mandatory for all stops to be announced on subways, buses and streetcars. He has won numerous awards for his human rights work – which he does on a volunteer basis in addition to his work as a criminal lawyer – including the Order of Ontario as well as the Tom Marshall Award of Excellence for Public Sector Lawyers in 2008, the Osgoode Alumni Gold Key Public Sector award in 2011 and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medal in 2012.

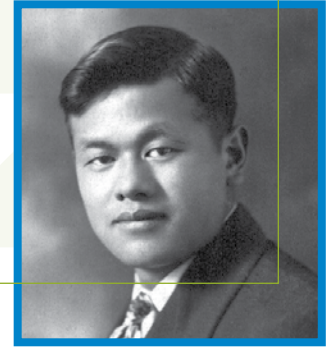
**The Honourable Abraham (Abe) Lief '26**  
(1903 – 2007)

Abraham (Abe) Lief was the first Jewish justice of the Supreme Court of Ontario and, as such, was also the first person to be sworn in wearing a yarmulke and holding the Old Testament. Born in Antopol, Poland (now Belarus), Lief emigrated to Canada when he was just one year old. After graduating from Osgoode in 1926, Lief joined his brother's practice in Ottawa where he specialized in family law (at a time when divorces could only be obtained through special acts of Parliament). In 1963, he was appointed to the Superior Court of Ontario and, as a judge, pioneered the use of pre-trial conferences for mediating child

custody, spousal support and other contentious disputes outside of the courtroom. Lief's contributions earned him the title of "Father of Ontario Family Law." He was an example for generations of Jewish lawyers in Canada who aspired to leadership positions in the profession.

**Clara Brett Martin '96**  
(1874 – 1923)

Clara Brett Martin's first battle was to just get into Osgoode. Her petition to the Law Society of Upper Canada to be recognized as a student was initially rejected, but with the support of politicians, including Ontario Premier Oliver Mowat, and prominent activists Emily Stowe and Lady Aberdeen, legislation was passed on April 13, 1892, that permitted the admission of women. She went on to become the first woman in the British Commonwealth to be called to the bar. Although celebrated for her determination in "opening the bar" to women, recent archival evidence has disclosed that Martin held anti-Semitic views, which she expressed in a letter to the Attorney General. Whether this reflects a prevailing attitude of the time among the Bar or the Toronto establishment, or whether it is a stain on her record of achievement, Clara Brett Martin's legacy as a trailblazer continues to shape legal education a century later.



### **The Honourable R. Roy McMurtry '58**

(1932 –)

R. Roy McMurtry, former Ontario Chief Justice and Attorney General and Canadian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, currently serves as the twelfth Chancellor of York University. A Toronto native, McMurtry attended Trinity College at the University of Toronto before graduating from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1958. After working as a trial lawyer for 17 years, McMurtry was elected to the Ontario Legislature and was appointed Attorney General in 1975. He left office in 1985 to become Canada's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. In 1996, he was appointed Chief Justice of Ontario after serving as the Chief of the Superior Court of Justice. During his career, he has been involved in constitutional reform, the promotion of multiculturalism and bilingualism in the courts, and has been a leader on same sex marriage issues.

Among his many achievements, McMurtry founded Pro Bono Access Ontario as well as the Osgoode Society, which is dedicated to the writing of Canadian legal history. In recognition of his work, McMurtry has received numerous awards and honors, including Osgoode Hall Law School's Alumni Award of Excellence, the President of the Bar Association's Award of Merit, and an honorary degree from York University. He was invested into the Order of Ontario in 2008 and as an Officer in the Order of Canada in 2010.

### **Vera Parsons '24**

(1889 – 1973)

Vera Parsons was the first female criminal defence lawyer in Ontario, likely the first woman to appear before judge and jury, and the first to defend an accused murderer. A great fan of litigation work, especially at the appellate level, Parsons practised criminal law at a time when it was seen as particularly unsuitable to women. Parsons, the daughter of a Simpson's department store executive, was a highly educated woman, holding a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto and a Master's degree in Comparative Languages from Bryn Mawr College. In 1924, she graduated from Osgoode and became the first woman whose academic accomplishments earned her the Osgoode Silver Medal. Parsons was also one of the first female lawyers in Canada with a disability, requiring a cane after having contracted polio as a child. In 1944, she became only the third woman to be named King's Counsel.

### **Bonnie Tough '76**

(1951 – 2011)

Bonnie Tough was a pioneering litigator and Law Society bencher who served as a role model to many young female lawyers. After clerking at the Supreme Court of Canada, Tough practised at Blake, Cassels and Graydon LLP and then at Hodgson Tough. In 2005 she and Kathryn Podrebarac '92 founded Tough and Podrebarac LLP. Tough was an active member of the Osgoode

community, serving on the Alumni Board and working as an Adjunct Professor teaching insurance law. She received a number of awards and honours including an Honourary Doctor of Laws degree from the Law Society for her contribution to the profession; a Lexpert Magazine award as one of Canada's top 25 women lawyers; the Ontario Bar Association's Award for Excellence in Civil Litigation; and Osgoode's Alumni Gold Key Award. Known to her friends and colleagues as compassionate, intelligent and full of energy, Tough was dedicated to her best friend and spouse Connie Reeve, whom she married in the midst of her illness after many happy years together.

### **Kew Dock Yip '45**

(1906 – 2001)

Kew Dock Yip was Canada's first Chinese Canadian lawyer. Born in 1906, he was the 17th of 23 children of Vancouver businessman Yip Sang. After graduating from Osgoode Hall Law School in 1945, Dock Yip, as he was known, worked with Jewish civil rights lawyer Irving Himel and activists from across Canada to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Act. Dock Yip was a leader within Toronto's Chinese Canadian community, working out of his office in Chinatown for 47 years until his retirement in 1992. In 1998, he was awarded the Law Society Medal from the Law Society of Upper Canada.

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*Nathalie Kalina is a second-year Osgoode student and the Research Assistant collecting material for the new Osgoode History & Archives Project.*

# Mental Health, Disability, Law & Justice

by Lorne Sossin '92  
Dean, Osgoode Hall Law School

**MUCH OF WHAT WE FOCUS ON** in legal education involves the aspects of the justice system we see. We see judges and lawyers and witnesses and parties to litigation or the accused in a criminal trial. We see the arguments, decisions and consequences that define the justice system. Increasingly, however, we are turning our focus to the parts of the justice system that go unseen. Mental illness and cognitive disabilities fall into this category.

The statistics are chilling. One in five Canadians suffer or will suffer the effects of a mental illness, which means it is rare to find a family in this country that is not touched in some way by the devastating effects of mental illness. For Canadians 18–25, suicide has become the second most common cause of death. Whatever your income or education, wherever you live, mental illness does not discriminate. Those who live with mental illness, however, encounter stigma and discrimination at every turn. Too often, their journey lands them in the justice system, whether as a victim or accused in the criminal justice system, or through civil committals, consent and capacity proceedings, the cascading consequences of loss of work or housing, family breakdown, or in the host of other legal networks in which those who need health or social benefits find themselves enmeshed.



*Osgoode is committed to making mental health, disability and justice a comprehensive priority in the coming years.*

In June 2011, Osgoode and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health co-sponsored a “Catalytic Conversation” about Forensic Mental Health, featuring Janet Leiper, the former Chair of Legal Aid Ontario and former Director of Osgoode’s Public Interest Program, Sandy Simpson, CAMH’s Director of the Mental Health and Justice Program and Justice Richard Schneider, who has pioneered Ontario’s first Mental Health Court. By the end of that conversation, it became clear that law is part of the problem, not the solution, when it comes to mental health and criminal justice.

A similar point was made by Osgoode alumna and criminal defense lawyer Marlys Edwardh, when she accepted an Honourary Doctorate as part of Osgoode’s June 2010 Convocation. Edwardh’s successful advocacy in the case of Paul Conway before the Supreme Court of Canada exemplifies her search for the just treatment of those with mental illness caught up in the justice system. Edwardh challenged Osgoode to take a leadership role among law schools in raising awareness, creating innovative research and teaching programs in the area of mental health and justice and pursuing law reform.

What should a law school do to address these dynamics? Osgoode is in the midst of providing concrete answers to this question.

Marian MacGregor, the Director of Community and Legal Aid Services Program (CLASP), received the prestigious Law Foundation of Ontario Community Leadership in Justice Fellowship for 2011–2012. She is working with ARCH Disability Law Centre to develop an intensive program in Disability law. The program is expected to include a placement at ARCH and nongovernmental organizations. The participating students will gain a greater sense of social justice and, it is hoped, be more likely to take on disability cases when they become lawyers.

CAMH has agreed to partner with Osgoode to pursue new research collaborations, which will involve Osgoode students tackling some of the most vexing legal issues associated with mental health and justice.

Finally, spurred by Osgoode alumni David Lepofsky and Karen Weiler and others who have served on the Ontario Courts Accessibility Committee – now Chaired by Osgoode Alumni Board member Susan Lang – Osgoode will be developing new curricular materials in the area of cognitive and physical accessibility to be made available to all Canadian law schools. This initiative builds on Osgoode Professional Development’s annual National Symposium on Mental Health Law, which brings together academics, lawyers, social workers, law enforcement, and mental health professionals to explore solutions to complex legal problems.

Still to come are interdisciplinary initiatives on mental health, disability and justice building involving Osgoode and other partners at York University, community projects led by Parkdale Community Legal Services and collaborations with NGOs such as RISE Asset Management, dedicated to microfinancing and mentorship for those living with mental illness and addiction. Osgoode is committed to making mental health, disability and justice a comprehensive priority in the coming years. In this endeavour, we hope to make a concrete reality of our aspirational motto, “Through Law to Justice.”

# Research in Action: A Matter of Life and Debt

by Christine Ward



Professor  
Sean Rehaag

At a small office storefront in the Danforth community, the telephone has been ringing off the hook since Christmas. Partly a consequence of the season of overspending, the calls are also the product of an enterprising Osgoode faculty member who isn't just researching a real-world problem; she's doing something about it.

A specialist in bankruptcy and insolvency law, Professor Stephanie Ben-Ishai and Carleton University economics professor Saul Schwartz published in 2011 their early findings from a three-year study assessing the growing credit levels of low-income Canadians and the options they have for dealing with debt when it becomes unmanageable. "Canada is far behind countries such as Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom in not offering a neutral, low- or no-cost debt advice service," says Ben-Ishai. "The timing is ripe to take action, either through the Canadian government or some kind of modified credit counselling service."



Professor  
Stephanie  
Ben-Ishai

Inspired by her research and Parkdale Community Legal Services, Osgoode's 40-year-old poverty law clinic, Ben-Ishai partnered last fall with WoodGreen Community Services to launch a free debt and bankruptcy clinic. Staffed by some 20 Osgoode student volunteers a term, the one-of-a-kind clinic provides low-income community members with information on debt resolution alternatives and Ben-Ishai's bankruptcy students with a taste of what life is like for the growing number of Canadians in financial distress.

“Osgoode professors and students have always shown a tremendous commitment to research that makes a difference in the world,” says Poonam Puri, Osgoode’s associate dean, research. “We’re grappling with some of the most challenging and complex public policy issues to help those with limited resources navigate the legal system.”

If the attention of the courts, legislators and policymakers is a measure of research relevance, two additional Osgoode studies on poverty and immigration are also poised to inspire reform. In an analysis of 25,000 Federal Court decisions involving refugees between 2005 and 2010, Professor Sean Rehaag and a team of 12 Osgoode student research assistants found “a significant measure of divergence in how judges grant leave to appeal to refugee claimants.” The outcomes hinged dramatically on who decided the case – a fact Rehaag found especially troubling in cases with potential life and death consequences.

Rehaag recommended a number of measures for change, including abolishing the leave requirement altogether, having the judges sit in panels of two and requiring explanations for decisions.

An earlier study of 70,000 refugee cases at Canada’s Immigration and Refugee Board found that claimants are more likely to succeed when represented by a lawyer.

“We need to rethink the role of immigration consultants in the refugee determination process,” explains Rehaag, “and we should consider seriously any cuts to legal aid that would compromise a refugee’s ability to retain counsel.”

The stark findings in both projects have inspired significant debate and talk of the need for both judicial and legislative reform. At Continuum press time, Rehaag was meeting with court officials to review the findings of his Federal Court study.

“It’s great to see a response,” says Rehaag. “It confirms that Osgoode research has real-world applications.”



# FACULTY NEWS

## PRESTIGIOUS APPOINTMENT FOR PROFESSOR OBIORA OKAFOR

Professor Obiora Okafor, an expert in international law and immigration/refugee law with a deep understanding of human rights issues across the globe, has been elected to the UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee for a three-year term.

The Committee, which is composed of 18 experts drawn from the 192 member states of the UN, is the think-tank for the UN Human Rights Council. It works to ensure that the Council receives the best possible expert opinion on human rights matters.

Not only is Okafor a scholar who has published extensively in his areas of expertise, he is also an outstanding teacher. He received the 2010 Award of Excellence from the Canadian Association of Law Teachers and also Osgoode's Teaching Excellence Award in 2002 and 2007.



## PROFESSOR AARON DHIR: LEXPERT'S RISING STAR



Lexpert magazine has named Professor Aaron Dhir as one of "Canada's Leading Lawyers Under 40." He received one of Lexpert's 2011 "Rising Stars" Awards, which pay tribute "to the rising stars of the legal community." Winners were nominated by peers and selected by Lexpert's advisory board, which includes some of

the most respected senior lawyers in Canada.

Dhir, who joined the faculty in 2007 and teaches in the field of business law, has received a number of awards for his considerable talent, including the South Asian Bar Association of Toronto Young Lawyer of the Year Award, an Osgoode Faculty Teaching Award, and the Osgoode Hall Legal & Literary Society Excellence in Teaching Award.

In the fall term he served as the Law Commission of Ontario's Scholar-in-Residence and is currently writing a book on corporate governance and diversity, which is under contract with Cambridge University Press.

## PROFESSOR POONAM PURI: MORE POWER TO HER

The Women's Executive Network has presented Professor Poonam Puri, Associate Dean, Research, Graduate Studies and Institutional Relations and Co-Director of the Hennick Centre for Business and Law, with a prestigious 2011 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100™ Award in the Xstrata Nickel Trailblazers & Trendsetters Award Category.

Puri joins a community of 584 women who have

received the Top 100™ Award, recognizing the highest achieving female leaders in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors in Canada. Winners are selected based on their strategic vision and leadership, their organization's financial performance, and their commitment to their communities.

Puri is one of Canada's leading scholars and commentators on corporate

governance, corporate law and securities law and her expertise has been sought by both Canadian and international governments and regulators. In addition to her academic work, she also sits on the boards of the Greater Toronto Airports Authority and Mount Sinai Hospital, and is a member of the National Advisory Council for Statistics Canada. In 2005, she was named one of Canada's Top 40 under 40.™



## NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Osgoode ushered in the 2011–2012 academic year by welcoming three superbly qualified professors to their new positions on the Osgoode faculty.



Professor Benjamin Berger joined Osgoode from the University of Victoria's Faculty of Law where he held a cross-appointment in the Department of Philosophy. Prior to joining UVic Law in 2004, he served as law clerk to Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, and was a Fulbright Scholar at Yale University. His research addresses questions related to law and religion; constitutional and criminal law and theory; the law of evidence; and law and culture. The recipient of multiple teaching awards, he will launch the Osgoode Colloquium on Law, Religion & Social Thought this year.



Professor Faisal Bhabha was a full-time Vice-Chair of the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario and an Adjunct Professor at Osgoode before his appointment to the full-time faculty. He has practised human rights and constitutional law, representing clients in issues related to employment, education, national security and health. Bhabha has also spoken publicly on human rights and constitutional law and spent time working in human rights advocacy globally. He has published law review articles on equality, access to justice, multiculturalism, and national security policy, and will help to advance experiential learning at Osgoode.



Before joining Osgoode's full-time faculty, Professor Dan Priel was a Visiting Professor at Osgoode in 2010–2011 and an Assistant Professor at the University of Warwick in the UK. From 2005–2007, he was the Oscar M. Ruebhausen Fellow-in-Law at Yale Law School, and before that he was a postgraduate student at the University of Oxford, where he wrote his doctoral dissertation. Priel served as law clerk in the Israeli Supreme Court and was co-editor-in-chief of the student-edited law journal at the Hebrew University Law Faculty. His research interests include legal theory, private law (especially tort law and restitution), legal history, and the application of the social sciences, in particular psychology, to legal research.

### OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Alumni are invited to attend the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association Annual General Meeting on **Wednesday, May 16, 2012**, from 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm in the Portrait Room of Osgoode Hall, 130 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

POSITIVE RSVPS APPRECIATED

Please contact the Osgoode Alumni Office at 416-736-5638 or [alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca) to obtain a copy of the agenda

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

# CLASS NOTES

## 1940s



48

**George Carter**

George Carter '48 was presented with the Osgoode Alumni Award of Excellence at the Osgoode Building Celebration on October 16, 2011, by members of the Osgoode Black Law Students Association and The Honourable Roy McMurtry '58, '91 (LLD).

## 1950s



50

**Peter Cory**

Peter Cory '50, '97 (LLD) was presented with the Osgoode Alumni Award of Excellence at the Osgoode Building Celebration on October 16, 2011, by The Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, Chief Justice of Canada.



55

**William Davis**

William Davis '55 has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the Kaneff Group.

## 1960s



69

**Gregory Cooper**

Gregory Cooper '69 was honoured with the 2011 Bryden Alumni Award for his outstanding contribution and service to York University on November 17, 2011.



62

**Anthony Cusinato**

Anthony Cusinato '62 retired from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in March 2011 after serving 28 years on the bench.

**Joseph Maingot '60** (BARR) and David Dehler are co-authors of *Politicians Above the Law* published by Baico Publishing in 2011.

**Gordon Pelletier '67** worked for the Australian law firm Tress Cox and Maddox until December 2000. Subsequently, he was a company director and audit committee chair of a large insurance agency and has retired.



62

**Ronald Thomas**

Ronald Thomas '62 retired from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in February 2012 after serving 27 years on the bench. Justice Thomas has presided over some of the most infamous trials including the murder of boxer Eddie Melo and the Colombia Cartel hit of Canadian drug lord Mauricio Castro.

## 1970s



77

**Barry Fisher**

Barry Fisher '77 is currently working as a mediator and arbitrator in the field of labour and environmental law. On June 1, 2011, he was awarded the Award of Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution by the Ontario Bar Association.



74

**Susan Lang**

Susan Lang '74 was appointed to the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association Board in May 2011.



72

**John Nichols**

John Nichols '72 was appointed to the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association Board in May 2011.



73

**Toni Polson Ashton**

Toni Polson Ashton '73 practised law for 35 years, principally in the intellectual property law (trademarks) area. She is proud of her two children, Meredith Ashton and Courtney Ashton, who are both corporate associates at Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP.



76

**Robert Reid**

Robert Reid '76, '99 (LLM) was appointed a judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice (Hamilton) in February 2011.



70

**Edward Sonshine**

Edward Sonshine '70 was honoured with the 2010 NAIOP Real Estate Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award in March 2011.



## 78 John Tory

John Tory '78 was awarded the first Harry Jerome Diversity Award from the Black Business and Professional Association on April 30, 2011.

## 1980s



## 83 Tye Burt

Tye Burt '83, president and chief executive officer of Kinross Gold Corporation, was presented with the 2011 Hennick Medal for Career Achievement on November 25, 2011.



## 80 Vern Kakoschke

Vern Kakoschke '80 recently retired as a partner of McMillan LLP where he practised in the structured finance area for many years. He now runs his own investment banking boutique ([www.gothicsolutions.ca](http://www.gothicsolutions.ca)) specializing in the design and implementation of large tax-advantaged financing transactions.



## 83 Louise LeBlanc

Louise LeBlanc '83 recently joined the firm of Connolly Nichols Allan & Snelling LLP in Ottawa to head their real estate department.

**Dianne Lister '80** was appointed as president and executive director of the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM) Board of Governors on May 16, 2011.



## 87 John Mascarin

John Mascarin '87 is working as a partner at Aird & Berlis LLP. He received the President's Award for Most Outstanding Associate Member from the International Municipal Lawyers Association.

**Milena Protich '83** is a partner at Lee LLP where she practises civil and administrative litigation and the law of charities and nonprofit organizations.



## 87 Atul Tiwari

Atul Tiwari '87 is the new managing director of Vanguard Investments Canada Inc. He is responsible for leading the Canadian operation, which will offer investment products to Canadian investors through investment advisors and other registered dealers and portfolio managers.

## 1990s

**Jacob Bakan '98** joined the Court of Appeal as special counsel to the Office of the Chief Justice in February 2011.



## 97 Leonard Brody

Leonard Brody '97 was nationally recognized by Caldwell Partners International with the Top 40 under 40™ Award in April 2011.



## 91 Simon Fothergill

Simon Fothergill '91 is the assistant deputy attorney general in the litigation branch of the Department of Justice (Canada). In this capacity, he oversees

all civil litigation involving the federal government in the common law provinces and the territories.

**Kenda Gee '91** has finished production as co-producer and director on *Lost Years*, a documentary feature and mini-series for television broadcast. The production has received great international media coverage: [www.lostyears.ca](http://www.lostyears.ca).



## 99 Joseph Grignano

Joseph Grignano '99 was honoured with the 2010 NAIOP Developing Leaders Real Estate Excellence Award. He was identified by his peers in the real estate industry as demonstrating outstanding leadership, professionalism, community involvement and business accomplishments.



## 95 Nancie Lataille

Nancie Lataille '95 was promoted to senior client partner at Korn Ferry International in June 2011.



## 98 Stewart Lyons

Stewart Lyons '98, president of Mobicity, was named one of Canada's Top 40 under 40™ in April 2011 for his outstanding contributions as business leader and community supporter.



## 95 Michael McCloskey

Michael McCloskey '95 (JD/MBA) has launched his new firm – GreensKeeper Asset Management. Before founding GreensKeeper, he spent nine years as an investment banker with Cormark Securities and six years working as a partner at Aird & Berlis LLP.

# CLASS NOTES



**93**  
**Willy Mutunga**

Willy Mutunga '93 (DJur) was appointed as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Kenya on June 15, 2011 for a ten-year term.



**98**  
**D'Arcy Nordick**

D'Arcy Nordick '98, '03 (LLM) was appointed to the Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni Association Board in May 2011.



**90**  
**Susan Richardson**

Susan Richardson '90 was appointed as judge of the Provincial Court of Alberta on April 14, 2011.



**92**  
**Julia Shin Doi**

Julia Shin Doi '92, '07 (LLM) was recently profiled by the Korean Canadian Leadership Development Committee as a leader in the community. She was appointed as general counsel and secretary of the Board of Governors at Ryerson University in September 2011.



**94**  
**Bryan Skolnik**

Bryan Skolnik '94 is a partner at Gardiner Roberts LLP. His industry specialty is in dispute resolution and financial services.

## 2000s



**06**  
**Sara Cohen**

Sara Cohen '06 joined Raviele Vaccaro LLP as partner in May 2011. She practises in fertility law (including surrogacy, egg donation, sperm donation and embryo donation) and advises intended parents, gestational carriers, gamete donors, fertility clinics and fertility companies about aspects of Canadian reproductive law.



**06**  
**Gerald Chan**

Gerald Chan '06 was appointed as partner of Ruby Shiller in April 2011. He practises criminal, constitutional and regulatory litigation at both the trial and appellate levels in Ontario.

**Geoffrey Kott '01** was promoted to managing director in the Fixed Income Division at Morgan Stanley in New York. In his free time, he is an active member of the New York Athletic Club and a patron of the Metropolitan Opera.



**04**  
**Alexis Levine**

Alexis Levine '04 married Dawn Rebel Skinner on May 7, 2011.



**03**  
**Jane Martin**

Jane Martin '03 has recently joined the partnership of Dickson MacGregor Appell LLP where she will be continuing her practice in trusts and estates litigation, capacity law and guardianship, estate administration and planning.



**07**  
**Clifford Shaw**

Clifford Shaw '07 (LLM) is a lawyer with Leon Bickman Brener in Calgary. He is also teaching Unsecured Creditors' Remedies and Bankruptcy and Restructuring Law to upper-year students in the Faculty of Law, University of Calgary.



**07**  
**Lisa Skakun**

Lisa Skakun '07 (LLM) is the general counsel at Coast Capital Savings Credit Union. She was presented with the Tomorrow's Leader Award by Brian Fulton '80, managing partner of Lawson Lundell, at the Western Counsel General Counsel Awards in November 2011.

## SUBMIT YOUR OWN CLASS NOTE

What's happened in your life since you graduated from Osgoode? We want to hear about it! Share news of your career, family life and personal accomplishments with your fellow alumni by submitting a Class Note.

Visit [www.osgoodealumni.ca/classnotes](http://www.osgoodealumni.ca/classnotes) to submit online or email us at [alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:alumni@osgoode.yorku.ca).





# IN MEMORIAM

January 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011

- |                           |                          |                          |                            |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1923 Jacob Markus         | 1951 William J. Beverley | 1959 David Baum          | 1970 Michael L. Baker      |
| 1930 Edra I. Ferguson     | 1951 William L. Hayhurst | 1959 Robert T. Carr      | 1970 Norman Drenfeld       |
| 1934 W. Bernard Herman    | 1951 Robert S. Hurlbut   | 1959 H. D. Wilkins       | 1970 Dennis G. Johnston    |
| 1937 Orian E. Low         | 1951 Rial G. Lawrence    | 1959 A. Stuart Wilson    | 1971 David L. McKenzie     |
| 1941 James Worrall        | 1951 George C. Loucks    | 1960 George L. Cole      | 1972 G. Ross Davis         |
| 1942 Donald L. Campbell   | 1951 Hugh D. Porter      | 1960 William Kasprow     | 1973 Isak Grushka          |
| 1942 Owen R. Chapman      | 1952 Robert S. MacKay    | 1960 Roy M. Kostuk       | 1973 James W. Rose         |
| 1942 David H. Henry       | 1953 J. David Bohme      | 1960 James W. McCutcheon | 1974 Edmund L. Glinert     |
| 1944 Gordon J. Sullivan   | 1953 Roy Cairns          | 1960 Robert C. Thompson  | 1974 Michael J. Herman     |
| 1946 Benjamin B. Grossman | 1953 John P. Hamilton    | 1960 Lionel B. White     | 1975 Leon Gavendo          |
| 1947 Irving D. Temins     | 1953 Peter K. McWilliams | 1961 Ross O. Woods       | 1976 Gregory G. Price      |
| 1948 James D. Dewar       | 1953 Harold J. Murphy    | 1962 Paul W. Green       | 1976 Bonnie A. Tough       |
| 1948 Donald M. Rogers     | 1954 Dennis G. Field     | 1962 John A. Inch        | 1977 Paul Bentley          |
| 1948 George S. Ferguson   | 1954 David D. Hague      | 1962 Frank A. Johnston   | 1977 Philip Daniels        |
| 1949 Robert E. Barnes     | 1954 John A. Tory        | 1962 Joseph Maziarz      | 1977 Bette L. Eubank       |
| 1949 Norman C. Brown      | 1955 G. Donald Chambers  | 1963 Armando F. DeLuca   | 1978 Morris G. Dunko       |
| 1949 John M. Hodgson      | 1955 Sidney J. Sitzer    | 1963 J. Bruce Gardner    | 1979 Alexander Joseph Ahee |
| 1949 Gerald F. Kinsman    | 1955 Douglas C. Woolley  | 1964 R. Lee Woods        | 1979 Neil W. Meikle        |
| 1949 Ian M. Rogers        | 1956 John M. Driesman    | 1965 Harvey I. Joseph    | 1979 Donald J. Ross        |
| 1949 Robert M. Russell    | 1957 Vernon S. Davies    | 1968 John W. Damery      | 1980 Juliana A. Daly       |
| 1949 Montague M. Simmonds | 1957 Bruce C. North      | 1969 Wayne S. Anderson   | 1982 Michael D. Failes     |
| 1950 John R. Campbell     | 1957 Ronald N. Robertson | 1969 Joseph C. Barrows   | 1982 J. Stephen Tatrallyay |
| 1950 William A. Cobban    | 1958 David R. Goeden     | 1969 Terrence W. Caskie  | 1984 Christine E. Beatty   |
| 1950 James K. Galbraith   | 1958 Charles R. Langdon  |                          | 1986 Stephen Z. Goodbaum   |
|                           | 1958 Murray A. Mogan     |                          | 1989 Mary R. McLaughlin    |

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### ALUMNI GOLD KEY AWARDS

The Gold Key Awards honour the outstanding achievements and contributions of Osgoode alumni in the following categories:

- Achievement: recognizes exceptional professional achievement
- Public Sector: outstanding service of public sector or government lawyer
- Service: significant contributions to Osgoode and/or the Alumni Association
- One-to-Watch: recent graduate who demonstrates the promise of future leadership

### DIANNE MARTIN MEDAL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH LAW

Created in memory of Professor Dianne Martin '76, this medal is awarded to a member of the Canadian legal community who has exemplified Dianne's commitment to law as an instrument for achieving social justice and fairness.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS APRIL 2, 2012

RECIPIENTS WILL BE PRESENTED WITH THE AWARD AT THE DEAN'S ANNUAL ALUMNI RECEPTION ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2012.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION, PLEASE GO TO [WWW.OSGOODEALUMNI.CA](http://WWW.OSGOODEALUMNI.CA) OR CONTACT

Anita Herrmann  
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*the way  
things were*



## OSGOODE IN THE JAZZ AGE

The 1920s was a time of tremendous growth and change in Toronto and at Osgoode. Toronto witnessed its first skyscrapers, cars dominated its roads for the first time, and its population surpassed 500,000, with waves of new immigrants settling in the expanding city. Radio, electric appliances and cars changed how people lived and connected with the world. At the new Sunnyside Amusement Park on the shore of Lake Ontario, the Palais Royale Ballroom became the centre of Toronto's jazz and "flapper" scene. Osgoode Hall Law School, then located in the Law Society of Upper Canada premises on Queen St., took its name officially in 1924

(before that, it was simply known as the Law School!). It was Ontario's only law school, and blended a model of lectures and apprenticeship for the 400 or so students enrolled at the school. John D. Falconbridge was the Dean and only full-time lecturer in 1923, though by the end of the decade there would be four full-time faculty. Women made up only a tiny fraction of the Osgoode class and racial, ethnic and religious minorities still faced active discrimination in their attempts to obtain access to legal education. The 1920s was a time of contrasts, where barriers were all too apparent, but where opportunity, change and progress seemed always just around the corner.

York Street, looking south from Osgoode Hall, approximately 1927.



CITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES, FOND 1244, F1244\_IT7182.

TOP LEFT: OSGOODE HALL, 1922, CITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES, FOND 1231, F 1231\_IT0770.  
TOP RIGHT: LAW SOCIETY OF UPPER CANADA, ARCHIVES, ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT COLLECTION, "OSGOODE HALL INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL TEAM, 1925," P781.



# DEAN'S ALUMNI RECEPTION

**MAY 16, 2012**

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Convocation Hall, Osgoode Hall  
130 Queen Street West, Toronto

**RSVP BY MAY 11, 2012**

[www.osgoodealumni.ca/events](http://www.osgoodealumni.ca/events)



“Join fellow alumni and friends for this annual celebration where we will honour the winners of the Alumni Gold Key Award and the Dianne Martin Medal.”

Dean Lorne Sossin '92

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